

[A. J. Ballard Family]

2nd

FEB 6 1937

Story told and checked by

(Mrs) Bertha Ballard Manning Bertha Ballard Manning C18-6/5/41-N. Mex.

SF

Redfield Georgia B.

2/5/37

cl 264 words

A.J. Ballard Family

Pioneers of Peco Valley

Given by Mrs. A.J. Manning

Father, A.J. Ballard was born in Tennessee and Mother Katherine Redding Ballard was born in Texas. They with all of their children came from Fort Griffin Texas and arrived in Fort Sumner New Mexico in 1879.

Father had been a buffalo hunter on the Llano Estacado (Staked Plains) several years before moving us to New Mexico While the journey over the plains in a covered wagon was a hard one no Indians were encountered. We were thrilled-expicially my brothers Charlie, & Will - and Dick over numerous herds of buffalo we saw on the plains I was ten

Library of Congress

years old at that time. Dick was a baby in arms My brother Robert L. Ballard was born three miles east of Roswell on east second street, on what is now know as the Arthur Stevens place. He (Bob) was the first boy baby born in the Pecos Valley Ella Lea Dow, daughter of Captain Joseph C. Lea was the first girl baby born in Roswell.

We watched Roswell grow from two adobe houses, built by Van C. Smith and Aaron Wilburn partners, one was a store and the other a four room hotel, with a dormer-window attic sleeping quarters for guests. Captain Lea owned both buildings and lived in the hotel at the time of our coming to Roswell. There were two or three little mud and stick huts a little north east of the hotel and store. Of the six little trees spoken of by Sallie Chisum Roberts as "making a struggle to live" there were only three left.

[My?] sister Ann Ballard Johnson (State Supervisor of WPA Production Projects) and two brothers James C and Robert L. live in Roswell. Richard (Dick) lives in Phoenix Arizona, Charlie and Will live in Carlsbdd Artesia New Mexico.

"We sold our farm on East Second street to the Arthur Stevens family and built a home in Roswell on what is now the one hundred block South Pennsylvania avenue a little north of where Mrs. Aurie S. Moreland lives at the present time, 102 S. Pennsylvania avenue.

"Father passed away in 1926 1914 ", [anMother?] in August 1926".

SF